(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



## 

(43) International Publication Date 23 December 2004 (23.12.2004)

**PCT** 

## (10) International Publication Number WO 2004/110134 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7:

A01J 5/00

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2004/002507

(22) International Filing Date: 11 June 2004 (11.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

0313624.9 0327202.8

12 June 2003 (12.06.2003) GB 21 November 2003 (21.11.2003) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AVON POLYMER PRODUCTS LIMITED [GB/GB]; Manvers House, Kingston Road, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire BA15

1AA (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

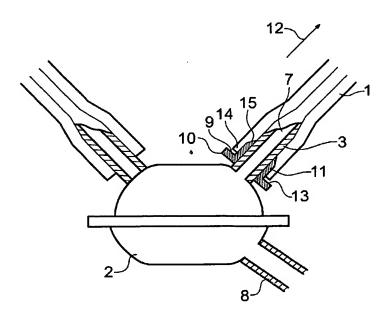
(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): BOAST, David [GB/GB]; 6 Chapel Row, Chippenham, Colerne, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN14 8DL (GB).

(74) Agents: CALDERBANK, Roger et al.; Mewburn Ellis LLP, York House, 23 Kingsway, London, Greater London WC2B 6HP (GB).

- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FLUID HANDLING ASSEMBLIES



(57) Abstract: In a fluid handling assembly, such as an animal milking apparatus, it is necessary for an elastic tube (1) to be fitted to, and removed from, a spigot (3). The prevent the tube (1) necking down when an attempt is made to remove it, a sleeve (9) is provided between the spigot (3) and the tube (1). The internal diameter of the sleeve (9) is the same as the outer diameter of the spigot (3) so that the sleeve (9) is slidable on the spigot (3) to enable the sleeve and hence the tube (1) to be removed from the spigot. The sleeve (9) may have a flange (10) or even a collar (19) to enable it to be gripped easily.

110134 A3

## WO 2004/110134 A2



## Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.